[2nd November 1931

Return of the public records connected with the arbitration of the Kannambadi dam.

* 471 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether he has made enquiries as to the return of the public records sent to the Chief Engineer's office by the Superintending Engineer's office of Tanjore as promised in answer to question No. 142 on 5th August 1931; and

(*b*) if so, whether orders have been issued for return of the said public records and whether the said public records have been actually returned?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) All the records obtained from the subordinate offices for the purpose of the Arbitration of 1929 have been returned to them.

Estimate for the construction of a syphon over the Morattu channel, Chidambaram taluk.

* 472 *Q.*—Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) when the estimate for the construction of the syphon over the Morattu channel, Vayalamur village, Chidambaram taluk, South Arcot district, was sanctioned and what is the estimated cost;

(*b*) whether tenders have been called for the construction of the said syphon and whether the same have been approved by the Government;

(*c*) when the construction will be commenced and completed;

(*d*) whether the ryots who waited on the Collector of South Arcot on deputation on 7th September 1931, complained against the delay in the carrying out of the syphon work; and

(*e*) what the reason for the delay is and what action the Government propose to take to avoid further delay and loss to the ryots?

A.—(*a*) In January 1931; Rs. 2,550.

(*b*) The Government have no information whether tenders were called for; such tenders do not require the approval of Government.

(*c*) & (*e*) The work has been postponed owing to the present financial stringency.

(*d*) The Government have no information.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, in view of the fact that the estimated cost of the work is only Rs. 2,550 and in view of the admitted fact that the lands are submerged in that area for want of this work, whether the Government cannot sanction the carrying out of the work now? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" I am afraid we cannot sanction it. We have no money."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" Not even an estimate for Rs. 2,550."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" No, Sir."

Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar:—" When you collect revenue from lands, is it not your duty to find money for giving them the necessary protection?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" We cannot do it now."

Resolutions passed by the Sethiatope Mirasidars' Association and the Chidambaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association.

* 473 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed by the Sethiatope Ancient Mirasidars' Association held on 26th August 1931 and of the Chidambaram Taluk Mirasidars' Association on 26th September 1931; and

(*b*) if so, what action the Government have taken or propose to take with reference to the said resolutions and representations of the mirasidars to redress their grievances?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Associations have been informed that the Government will receive a deputation from the Associations.

Report from the Chief Engineer on special duty, Vellar Investigating Party.

* 474 *Q.*—Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether a copy of G.O. No. 944 I., dated 1st September 1906, will be placed on the table and also a copy of the appendices referred to in the report No. 377, dated 12th April 1905, from the Chief Engineer on special duty, Vellar Investigating Party, to the Chief Engineer, Madras, and particularly referred to but not printed in the said Government Order, viz., No. 944 I., dated 1st September 1906?

A.—The Government see no reason to place the report on the table.

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know whether this Government Order and the report, etc., referred to therein come under the Official Secrets Act and so cannot be placed on the table of the House? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—" That is not the reason for not placing them on the table of the House."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed:—" May I know then the reason why this Government Order and the connected papers could not be placed on the table of the House? "